

Department of Military Affairs

Agency Overview - Highlights

August 2015

For the State Administration and Veterans' Affairs Interim Committee

Department Head: Major General Matthew T. Quinn, Adjutant General, appointed by the governor. Contact Info.: 406-324-3010, mquinn@mt.gov

Website: <http://dma.mt.gov/>

Department Responsibilities:

- **Army and Air National Guard** - oversees and supports all national guard units throughout the state, which train for and perform state and federal missions related to security and relief.
- **Disaster and Emergency Services Division** - responsible for emergency management planning, mitigation, response, and recovery from disasters, including the disbursement of federal Homeland Security and Emergency Management funds to eligible political subdivisions and tribal nations.
- **Youth Challenge** - for youth ages 16 to 18 who have stopped attending secondary school before graduating. 17-month, voluntary, two-phased military modeled training program targeting at-risk youth.
- **Scholarship Program** - provides educational scholarships to eligible Montana National Guard personnel enrolled as undergraduate students in Montana colleges, universities, or training programs.
- **STARBASE Program** - for elementary school aged children to raise the interest and improve the knowledge and skills of at-risk youth in math, science, and technology.
- **Montana Military Family Relief Program** - provides monetary grants to eligible families to defray the costs of food, housing, utilities, medical services, and other expenses that become difficult to afford when a National Guard member is placed on active military duty and family income is reduced.
- **Administrative Support** - Provides administrative support to Board of Veterans' Affairs and the Montana Veterans Affairs Division, which is administratively attached to the department.

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Programs, FTE, and Budgeted Funding - 2017 Biennium:

Source: Legislative Fiscal Division

| Programs | FTE | General Fund | State Special | Federal Revenue | Total Funding | % General Fund |
|---|----------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| Centralized Services Division | 11.76 | \$1,422,812 | \$0 | \$721,275 | \$2,144,087 | 66.36% |
| ChalleNGe Program | 51.15 | 2,063,796 | 0 | 6,115,235 | 8,179,031 | 25.23% |
| Scholarship Program | 0 | 418,818 | 0 | 0 | 418,818 | 100.00% |
| STARBASE | 3.00 | 0 | 0 | 594,418 | 594,418 | 0.00% |
| Montana Military Relief Fund (statutory approp) | 0 | 0 | 56,500 | 0 | 56,500 | 0.00% |
| Army National Guard* | 45.30 | 3,436,812 | 840 | 34,136,368 | 37,574,020 | 9.15% |
| Air National Guard* | 40 | 862,934 | 0 | 8,996,918 | 9,859,853 | 8.75% |
| Disaster and Emergency Services | 24 | 2,530,276 | 120,071 | 31,883,554 | 34,533,901 | 7.33% |
| TOTAL | <u>175.21</u> | <u>\$10,735,448</u> | <u>\$177,411</u> | <u>82447768</u> | <u>\$93,360,628</u> | <u>11.50%</u> |

Budget Summary

The Department of Military Affairs' 2017 biennium budget increased when compared to the 2015 biennium due to:

- Additional federal revenue authority for remediation of unexploded ordinances on current or former military bases in Montana
- Approval of 5.50 FTE and related personal services throughout the agency
 - 2.00 FTE veteran service officers within the Veteran's Affairs Program
 - 2.00 FTE for the ChalleNGe Program including a program recruiter and a counselor
 - 1.00 FTE environmental science specialist for the Air National Guard Program
 - 0.50 FTE administrative assistant within the Director's Office
- Operational support for new Army National Guard facilities including the Miles City Readiness Center and Aviation Readiness Center in Helena
- Funding for water and sewer maintenance costs for the Montana Air National Guard base in Great Falls

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- Support to implement the medal of valorous service to honor Montana's fallen heroes who were members of the United States armed forces and were killed or classified as missing in action while serving in combat or military operations

Statutory Advisory Councils:

- None

Administratively Attached Agencies:

- Board of Veterans' Affairs - Montana Veterans' Affairs Division

Most Recent Legislative Audits:

- Financial compliance for two fiscal years ending June 30, 2014.

Recommendations:

- DMA not providing National Guard re-enlistment bonuses to eligible members. (Program was not funded and the 2015 Legislature repealed it.)
- DMA should ensure expenditure accrual transactions are supported and recorded in accordance with state accounting policy. (DMA concurred.)
- DMA should comply with administrative rules governing documentation requirements for recruitment and selection of employees. (DMA concurred.)
- DMA should strengthen the internal control process to improve review procedures over transactions to ensure compliance with state accounting policy. (DMA concurred.)
- DMA should follow established internal control policies to obtain signed grant award agreements for Homeland Security grants before reimbursement of funds to subrecipients. (DMA concurred, believes it is in compliance.)
- DMA should pay work time within the boundaries of state administrative rule and policy. (Relates to DMA allowing exercise time to be paid work time. DMA did not concur. However, subsequent to the report, DMA reevaluated this policy and rescinded it.)

Agency Bills Passed During 2015 Session:

- HB 64 - Adopting the most recent federal laws applicable to the National Guard
- HB 68 - Revising employment protections for military service in the National Guard

Agency Bills that Failed During 2015 Session:

- HB 96 - Revising National Guard re-enlistment or extension bonus program (Tabled in House State Administration in favor of a committee bill to repeal the law.)

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Committee Areas of Interest Previous Interim:

- None

Hot Topics of 2015 Session:

- None

Statutorily Required Reports:

- None

ATTACHMENT

DMA's Organizational Chart, Phone Directory

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Montana Department of Military Affairs (DMA)

